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*Mr. Hallett*  
MR. HALLETT.



**Borough of Kendal.**

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR

**1936**

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KENDAL  
WESTMORLAND GAZETTE LTD., PRINTERS

—  
1937





Borough of Kendal.

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1937

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Kendal**

Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1936.

The arrangement of the same is similar to that of the previous year, and is compiled in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health's communication of October 16th, 1936.

Except where any changes have occurred in the matter of Nursing in the Home, Laboratory arrangements, Hospital accommodation, Ambulance facilities and the establishment of new Clinics and Treatment Centres, the general details have been omitted.

This year is the first one which has been completed in conformity with the recent boundary changes, thus making it a standard by which the future may be compared.

The Survey required for the purpose of estimating the extent of Overcrowding in your District has made a fairly heavy additional call upon the services of your Sanitary Department, which, however, has been well met, and will no doubt bear fruit in due season.

The proper provision of accommodation for the isolation and nursing of infectious diseases on modern lines has been under the consideration of the County Council for some time past, but no decision has yet been reached.

I am indebted to your Officials for much help and advice on many occasions and especially to the loyal co-operation of your Sanitary Inspectors.

The Medical Profession has been ever ready to place its services at my disposal, and I am grateful to its members for their courtesy, which makes for harmony and efficiency.

To one and all I tender my sincerest thanks.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,  
W. BARON COCKILL,  
Medical Officer of Health.

14th May, 1937.

## STAFF.

NAME.	QUALIFICATIONS.	Office.	Whole or Part Time.	Other Offices.
W. B. Cockill	M.D. etc., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health.	Part	M.O.H. Westmorland Combined Districts.
G. Jackson	M.R. San. I.	Sanitary Inspector	Whole	—
B. Rigg	A.R. San. I.	Additional San. Inspector	Whole	—
J. H. Major A. J. Birkett	A.R. San. I. —	Assistant San. Inspectors	Whole	—
E. E. Petersen	C.M.B. Queen's Cert., Cert. in General Training and Cert. for Health Visitors.	School Nurse.	Whole for 6 months	—
E. Metcalfe	S.R.N. Health Visitor. R. San. I. New Health Cert.	Health Visitor.	Part.	School Nurse.
W. E. Henderson	M.B. etc., D.P.H.	School Medical Officer.	Part.	County M.O.H. and School Medical Officer.
F. W. Oxberry	M.I.M.C.E.	Surveyor.	Part	Borough Surveyor
T. Crowdy	M.I.Mech.E. F.C.S., F.R.Met.Soc., F.F.Sc. (London)	Water Engineer	Part	Gas Engineer
W. H. Roberts	M.Sc., F.I.C.	Public Analyst	Part	—
J. Wright	L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.	Ophthalmic Surgeon to Education Committee	Part	Assistant to County M.O.H.
J. Irvine	L.D.S.	School Dentist	Part	County School Dentist



# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1936.

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Area (acres)	...	...	...	3,691
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population	...	...	...	17,360
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1936) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	5,051
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£121,670
Sum represented by Penny Rate	...	...	...	£470

Kendal is a market town serving an agricultural area within a radius of eight miles. In addition, there are a number of industries which afford occupation to the inhabitants and the chief of which are :—

Boot and Shoe Manufactory  
 Carpet Mills.  
 Engineering Works.  
 Iron Foundries.  
 Hosiery Manufactories.  
 Tobacco Manufactories.  
 Breweries.  
 Laundering.  
 Horse Clothing.

None of these trades have any particular influence on Public Health.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births :—	Total.	M.	F	
Legitimate	... 221	124	97	} Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 13.7.
Illegitimate	... 17	7	10	
Birth Rate, England and Wales	...			14.8
Still Births	... 5	2	3	} Rate per 1,000, total (live and still) births, 20.6.
Deaths	... 210	99	111	

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	12.1
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... ..	11.2
Death Rate, England and Wales ... ..	12.1
Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—	

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis ... Nil	...	Nil
Other Puerperal Causes ... 1	...	4.1
Total ... .. 1	...	4.1
Maternal Mortality Rate, England and Wales ...		3.81
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—		
All Infants per 1,000 live births ...		38
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..		40
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..		Nil
Infantile Death Rate, England and Wales ...		59
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ..		Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...		Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...		Nil

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year, nor has there been any noteworthy cause of sickness or invalidity in the District; neither occupation nor environment have had any prejudicial effect on health.

The School Medical Officer does not consider that unemployment has had any significant influence on the health or physique of the children, nor is there any direct evidence that adults have been seriously effected from the same cause. The diurnal purchase of sweets and the nocturnal attendance at cinemas would suggest that there should be no lack of funds for the provision of proper nourishment for children.

Deaths were registered from the following causes:—

DISEASE.					M.	F.	Total.
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Influenza	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	..	..	..	..	7	7	14
Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	2	3	5
Cancer, Malignant Disease	..	..	..	..	10	13	23
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	3	1	4
Cerebral Haemorrhage	..	..	..	..	5	22	27
Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	21	27	48
Aneurysm ..	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Other Circulatory Diseases	..	..	..	..	5	2	7
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	4	3	7
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	..	3	4	7
Other Respiratory Diseases	..	..	..	..	3	1	4
Peptic Ulcer	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
Appendicitis	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Other diseases of liver, etc.	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Other digestive diseases	..	..	..	..	5	3	8
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	..	..	..	..	6	9	15
Other puerperal causes	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Congenital Debility, Prematurity, Malformations, etc.	..	..	..	..	3	—	3
Senility ..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
Other Violence	..	..	..	..	4	3	7
Other Defined Diseases	..	..	..	..	9	9	18



The total of Births and Deaths for any District is made up by taking the actual figures registered during the year less those whose place of residence was outside the District (out-transfers) plus those who, whilst living in another Area, had their usual place of residence within the District (in-transfers).

The Registrar-General furnishes all particulars of in-transfers in the case of deaths, but merely the number in the case of births.

Within the Borough 374 births were registered, of which 141 were out-transfers, and there were 5 in-transfers, giving a total of 238.

Of the registered births 127 were notified by doctors, 101 by midwives, and 5 were not notified by either.

There were 264 deaths registered, of which 76 were out-transfers, and there were 22 in-transfers, making a total of 210.

The allocation by Wards is as follows :—

		Births, According to Register.		Deaths, Complete.
Castle	...	41	...	49
Far Cross Bank	...	54	...	22
Fell	...	26	...	36
Highgate	...	47	...	37
Nether	...	31	...	28
Strickland	...	34	...	38
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		233		210
		<hr/>		<hr/>

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

### Laboratory Facilities.

No change has been made in these facilities.

### Ambulance Facilities.

- (a) Infectious cases ... Municipal Motor Ambulance.  
 (b) Non-infectious cases ... do.

The Ambulance Service is very efficient and removed the following cases :—

Kendal infectious cases	...	...	52
Kendal non-infectious and maternity cases	...	...	255

Rural infectious cases	...	...	73
Rural non-infectious and maternity cases	...	...	116
			<hr/>
Total	...	...	496
			<hr/>
Number of miles run	...	...	6,340

### **Nursing in the Home.**

There is no alteration in this service.

### **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

A new Mothers' Clinic has been established during the year.

### **Hospitals.**

There has been no change in either the public or voluntary hospital services.

### **Maternity and Child Welfare.**

The number of infants and children attending the Clinic has increased, the former by 3 and the latter by 24, and the total attendances of mothers and children have risen by nearly 300.

A most pleasing feature of the year's work is the larger number of attendances by expectant mothers, which implies that such are beginning to understand the importance of Ante-natal supervision, and in quite a number of instances the discovery of what might have proved to be very serious has led to proper treatment, with either amelioration or disappearance of the trouble.

Another good feature is the attendance of mothers when convalescent after childbirth, and in these cases a little supervision is often helpful in assisting a return to the normal.

The removal of the Clinic from Abbot Hall to Stramongate Hall has provided more excellent accommodation in which to work and has also added aesthetic improvements for those attending.

### **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.**

Number of times the Centre has been open	...	52	
„ „ Babies under 1 year attending	...	123	} 240
„ „ Children 1 to 5 years attending	...	117	

„	„	consultations for babies	...	1175	} 2270	
„	„	„	„ children	...		533
„	„	„	„ mothers	...		199
„	„	„	„ expectant mothers	..		302
„	„	„	„ Post-natal mothers	...		61

Average sessional attendances :—

Number of babies	...	...	...	22.6	} 43.5
„	„	children	...	10.2	
„	„	mothers	...	3.8	
„	„	expectant mothers	...	5.8	
„	„	Post-natal mothers	...	1.1	

Number of Mothers admitted to Hospital under the Maternity  
and Child Welfare Act ... .. 20

#### Summary of Nurse Metcalfe's Work :

First visits to infants under 1 year	...	...	214	} 2742
Subsequent visits	...	...	1289	
Visits to children 1 to 5 years of age	...	...	975	
First visits to expectant mothers	...	...	60	
Subsequent visits	...	...	146	
Still-birth enquiries	...	...	4	
Infant death enquiries	...	...	7	
Attendances at Centre	...	...	47	

#### Summary of Nurse Hughes' Work :

Visits to cases of Puerperal Fever	...	38	} 235
„ „ „ Pyrexia	...	97	
„ „ Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	100	

#### Infantile Mortality.

The number of death of infants under 1 year of age has remained the same as in the the previous year, namely, 9. Of these, only one occurred during the first day, and there were no further deaths under one month: this is quite a reversal of the usual state of things, neo-natal deaths nearly always providing the largest number in any one period. Is the mother with her new-born child becoming more healthy? An interesting question, only to be answered by experience over a number of years.

A Mothers' Clinic for advice and instruction in Birth Control has been established during the last ten months of the year and, though it has not been largely attended, has proved of considerable value. Twenty-five mothers and 67 attendances were registered.

## ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH IN INFANTS.

Prematurity	Congenital Diseases	Bronchitis	Pneumonia	Other Causes	TOTAL
1	2	1	2	3	9

## AGE INCIDENCE OF INFANTILE MORTALITY.

1 week	2 weeks	3 weeks	4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total under 1 year
1	—	—	—	1	4	1	2	1	9

## RATEABLE VALUE OF HOUSES IN WHICH DEATHS OCCURRED.

Under £5	£5—£10	£10—£15	£15—£20	Over £20	TOTAL
1	3	4	1	—	9



**Deaths by Wards.**

Castle Ward	...	...	...	1
Fell Ward	...	...	...	2
Highgate Ward	...	...	...	4
Strickland Ward	...	...	...	1
Far Cross Ward	...	...	...	1
				—
				9
				—

**Children's Act, 1908.**

These duties are regularly carried out by the Health Visitor; the number under supervision has been 13.

**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.****Water.**

There are 161 houses in the Borough which do not obtain their water supply from the Corporation Mains. Of these, 11 obtain it from the Thirlmere pipe-line, and 103 from a small reservoir at Helmside, which is also connected to the Thirlmere pipe-line.

There were complaints during the summer about the water from this reservoir, and upon examination it was found to be in a filthy condition, and was afterwards cleansed by the Staff of the Borough Water Engineer and all hydrants flushed.

A Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of this water was made, with the following results :—

				Parts per 100,000 of water.
Total Solids	...	...	...	2.5
Chlorine as Chlorides	...	...	...	1.75
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	Nil
Organic Ammonia	...	...	...	0.008
Total Hardness	...	...	...	14°

Bacillus Coli was absent in 20 c.c.

It is a water which is fit for human consumption and all domestic purposes.



### Fisher Tarn.

Weeding has again taken place during the year and 1,034 loads removed and it is estimated that each load weights 11cwt.

By-washing was taking place at the end of the year, and continued till January 24th, but did not again occur till December 15th, and was still present at the end of the year. The lowest level reached was on July 18th and there was 8 feet 5 inches of water in the reservoir.

Whilst by-washing was taking place, the reservoir has been flushed for half an hour daily.

### Birds' Park Reservoirs.

These have been weeded and are in good condition.

All the runners and the catchment area are satisfactory.

No pumping has been required at Mints Feet but the plant is in good condition and ready for immediate use at any time.

It is estimated that the population to be supplied during the coming year will be 16,400.

The following is a Summary of the monthly bacteriological examinations :—

Month.	Fisher Tarn. (B. Coli in c.c.'s)		Birds' Park. (B. Coli in c.c.'s)		Remarks.
January	...	—50	...	—20	
February	...	—50	...	—50	
March	...	—50	...	—50	
April	...	—50	...	—40	
May	...	—50	...	—50	
June	...	—50	...	—50	
July	...	—50	...	—20	
August	...	—40	...	+ 10	
September	...	—50	...	—50	
October	...	—40	...	—40	
November	...	—40	...	+ 10	... After heavy rain.
December	...	—50	...	—50	

— is absent, + is present.

### Drainage and Sewerage.

No further progress has been made with the sewer to Bolefoot and Helmside. The L.M. & S. Railway Co. had agreed to construct

the portion under the railway line, but had not done so at the end of the year and, consequently, the work of privy conversion in these areas has had to be deferred.

Tenders were obtained for constructing a sewer from Aikrigg Avenue to Kentrigg and Carus Green, but as the lowest tender was higher than the Borough Surveyor's estimate, the Minister gave his consent to the work being done by direct labour, and the work was commenced in November.

At the end of the year there were 261 houses (including farms) which did not discharge their drainage into Corporation sewers.

### Rivers and Streams.

No serious pollution of the River Kent has been observed. The effluent from the sewage disposal works has been satisfactory throughout the year, and no complaints have been made by the supervising authority.

### Closet Accommodation.

Washdown and washout closets	...	5,369
Trough closets	... ..	66
Privies	... ..	102
Pail closets	... ..	10
		<hr/>
		5,547
		<hr/>
Privies converted during the year	..	1
Trough closets abolished	... ..	14

### Public Cleansing.

There has been no change in the methods for the collection and disposal of refuse. Tipping was commenced at Cinder Ovens Tip in February, after a lapse of six years.

As this tip is situated close to the Isolation Hospital, special care has to be taken to prevent any nuisance arising.

The area available for tipping on this site will be filled up in about a year, and it will be necessary to find another tip, or other methods of disposal.

The incinerator at the Canal Head has been re-lined, and is now in good order.

The following is a summary of the work done :

	Horse. S. & D. Karrier. Totals.			
No. of loads from ashbins	... 951	2186	1929	5066
„ „ „ ashpits	... 146	—	47	193
„ „ trade refuse	... 243	—	295	538
„ „ slaughterhouse garbage	... 152	—	—	152
	1492	2186	2271	5949
Cubic yards of refuse	... 3946	13116	11355	28417
Tons of refuse (at 5cwts per cub. yd.)	987	3279	2839	7105
Cost of removal per cubic yard	... 1/11.2	1/2.0	1/3.0	1/3.5
Cost of removal per estimated ton	... 7/9.0	4/8.0	5/0.0	5/2.0
Cost of disposal per cubic yard	...			6.1d.
Cost of disposal per estimated ton	...			2/0.4
Gross Cost of removal	... £383	£745	£698	£1826
Gross cost of disposal	...	...	...	£728
Total cost of removal and disposal per ton	...	...	...	7/2.3
Total cost of removal and disposal per premises	...	...	...	9/0.5
Total cost of removal and disposal per 1,000 population	...	...	...	£148
No. of premises from which refuse was removed	...	...	...	5,646
Daily yield of refuse per 1,000 population	...	...	...	20.5cwts.
No of ashpits in use at end of year	...	...	...	59

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following is a summary of the inspections made and the defects or nuisances discovered during the year :—

Inspections and re-inspections of dwellings	...	...	1711
„ of yards	...	...	320
Visits to slaughterhouse	...	...	487
Inspections of offensive trades	...	...	150
„ „ common lodging houses	...	...	35
„ „ dairies and cowsheds	...	...	87
„ „ stables and piggeries	...	...	21
„ „ refuse depots	...	...	41
„ „ drainage works	...	...	445
„ „ works in progress	...	...	409
„ „ bakehouse and food premises	...	...	95
„ „ factories and workshops	...	...	283
„ „ schools	...	...	4
„ made for food and drugs	...	...	20
„ „ defective spouts	...	...	56

„ „ „ tents, vans and sheds	...	...	15
„ „ under Shops Act, 1934	...	...	58
Miscellaneous inspections	...	...	36
Smoke observations	...	...	24
Enquiries into infectious disease	...	...	68
Rooms disinfected	...	...	125
Complaints received and enquired into	...	...	60
Drains tested	...	...	153
„ examined	...	...	97
Houses visited for overcrowding survey	...	...	2845
Visits in connection with disinfestation	...	...	200
„ „ „ demolition	...	...	159
Total			8004

Defects and nuisances discovered :—

Defective gullies	...	...	8
„ and choked drains	...	...	34
„ paving of yards	...	...	53
Bedrooms insufficiently lighted and ventilated	...	...	96
Living rooms insufficiently lighted and ventilated	..	...	82
„ „ with low ceilings (less than 7ft.)	...	...	27
Bedrooms with low ceilings (less than 7ft.)	...	...	77
Houses overcrowded	...	...	97
„ with defective roofs	...	...	85
„ „ „ floors	...	...	100
„ „ „ windows	...	...	80
„ „ „ stairs	...	...	65
„ „ „ ceilings	...	...	30
„ „ „ and damp walls	..	...	84
„ „ „ chimney stacks	...	...	59
„ „ „ kitchen ranges	...	...	79
„ „ „ spouts and gutters	...	...	40
„ „ „ doors	...	...	41
„ „ „ sinks and sink wastes	.	...	41
„ „ „ wash-houses	...	...	28
„ „ „ cellars	...	...	2
„ without sink or water in the house	...	...	3
„ with defective plaster-work	...	...	84
„ „ living-rooms below ground level	...	...	52
„ without through ventilation	...	...	18
„ with defective ashbins	...	...	116



177 preliminary notices and 5 statutory notices were served in connection with the above defects.

### Offensive Trades.

Fellmongers	...	...	...	1
Tallow Melters	...	...	...	1
Carcase Boilers	...	...	...	1
Tripe Boilers	...	...	..	1
Gut Scrapers	...	...	...	1
Rag and Bone Dealer		...	...	1
Rag Dealers	...	...	..	2
Fish Fryers	...	...	...	15



No serious nuisance has arisen at the tallow melting works in Beezon Road.

The bone store in Captain French Lane has been kept under constant observation. The proprietors have now obtained a motor vehicle, and quite a considerable quantity of bones are removed direct from shops to the railway station, thus avoiding storage on their premises.

### **Houses Let in Lodgings.**

There are no byelaws in force for the regulation of houses let in lodgings.

### **Tents, Vans and Sheds.**

15 visits of inspection were made in connection with tents, vans and sheds. Complaints were received with regard to the congregation of tents and vans in a field adjoining the main highway; as the complaints were received at the end of the season, definite action was postponed till the commencement of next year's camping season.

### **Common Lodging Houses.**

There are three registered Common Lodging Houses. All the lodging houses are inspected at least once a month. There is no improvement to report on the question of good lodging accommodation for decent female lodgers.

### **Shops Act**

In connection with the above, 56 visits of inspection were paid. As a result 3 notices were served to provide proper W.C. accommodation and washing facilities and these have been provided. A further 8 notices were served to provide proper records in connection with the employment of young persons.

The compiling of a register has not been completed, owing to the increased work arising from the overcrowding survey.

### **Smoke Abatement.**

23 half-hour observations were made during the year, and in 3 cases preliminary notices were served with regard to the undue emission of black smoke.

It has not been found necessary to take any further proceedings.

### **Swimming Baths and Pools.**

The Corporation own and maintain a swimming bath which is open for the use of the public during the five months from May to September each year.

The bath falls far short of modern requirements, in both accommodation and hygienic principles,

There is no filtration plant, and the water is treated with "Chloros" and changed twice each week.

Plans for the reconstruction of the bath or for an entirely new bath have been under consideration for several years, but no decision has been reached.

There are no privately owned swimming pools in the District.

### **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

The furniture and effects of all tenants who are removed from slum areas to new houses are disinfected by means of Hydrocyanic Gas before removal.

This is done by a Contractor at a cost of £2 10s. per van load. The vans are the property of the Corporation and the removal of the furniture and disinfestation is carried out without any charge to the tenant.

Furniture from 50 houses was treated during the year.

No Council house was found to be infested during the year.

7 houses in private ownership were found to be infested and were dealt with by means of a proprietary compound which appears to be composed largely of sulphur.

It was known that many of the houses in Clearance Areas were infested, and owners were informed that woodwork should be burnt upon the site. This is necessarily difficult to enforce, as this material is often removed at night when the workmen have left.

In cases where the Corporation have carried out the demolition, the houses were burnt out after the removal of the slates, where this could be done without danger to adjoining property.

### **Schools.**

All the schools in the Borough have sanitary accommodation of the water-carriage type and have the public water supply laid on.

No schools have been closed for infectious disease.

**HOUSING**

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	30
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	123
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	153
				<hr/>

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	...	...	...	477
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...			982
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	353
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...			353
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	112
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation				144

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	...	...	...	109
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

(a) Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...			14
---	-----	--	--	----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners	...	...	...	21
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners				Nil.

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. 21

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners	...	...	...	21
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners				Nil.

(b) Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... .. 51

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... .. 41

(3) Undertakings accepted that house will not be used again for habitation ... .. 44

(d) Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... .. 3

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... .. Nil.

### **Housing Act, 1935. Overcrowding.**

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... .. 96

(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... .. 108

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... .. 633



(b) Number of new cases of Overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	13
(c) (1) Number of cases of Overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	1
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases				...	6

The preliminary survey and enumeration to ascertain the extent of overcrowding was completed on February 14th; 2,749 working class houses were inspected, and based upon the assumption that two-roomed houses would accommodate 3 persons, three-roomed houses 4 persons, four-roomed houses 6 persons, and five-roomed houses 8 persons (according to the table set out in Memorandum B, issued by the Ministry of Health) it was found that 130 or 4.7 per cent. of the houses were overcrowded, and a further 110 or 4.0 per cent. were doubtfully so.

Included in the total of 2,749 houses inspected were 880 Corporation houses, of which 40 or 4.5 per cent. appeared to be overcrowded, and a further 39 or 4.4 per cent. to be doubtfully so.

It is interesting to note that 1,595 houses, or 58 per cent. of the number inspected, contained the equivalent of 3 persons or less (a child under 10 years of age counting as half a person), the total figures being:—

Families of 1 person	...	...	...	161
Families of 1½ persons		...	...	8
Families of 2 persons	...	...	...	561
Families of 2½ persons	...	...	...	289
Families of 3 persons	...	...	...	576
				<hr/>
				1,595
				<hr/>

The second part of the survey consisted in measuring all the rooms in 240 houses which the first survey indicated might be overcrowded, and this was completed on May 14th.

The standard laid down in the Housing Act, 1935, is a very low one, and all living rooms are assumed to be available for sleeping purposes.

It is not the local custom to use living-rooms for sleeping purposes, and previously this had never been taken into account when dealing with overcrowding.



The new basis is fixed upon floor area, and not upon cubic capacity, and is fixed by the Act as under:—

Room with 110 sq. feet or more floor area will accommodate 2 persons.

Room with 90-110 sq. feet floor area will accommodate  $1\frac{1}{2}$  persons.

Room with 70-90 sq. feet floor area will accomdmocate 1 person.

Room with 50-70 sq. feet floor area will accommodate  $\frac{1}{2}$  person.

A room measuring less than 50 square feet is not to be counted as a room available for sleeping purposes.

Persons of the opposite sex, being ten years of age or more, and not being persons living together as husband and wife, must not sleep in the same room. The result of the second survey showed that the overcrowding is not so serious as the preliminary survey had indicated, and is summarised below.

Ward.	No. of Houses inspected.	No. of Houses Overcrowded.	Percentage Overcrowded.
Nether	451	18	3.99%
Highgate	688	29	4.21%
Castle	561	5	.89%
Far Cross	341	7	2.05%
Fell	285	16	5.61%
Strickland	423	9	2.12%
Total	2749	84	3.05%

Included in the above summary are 880 Corporation houses, of which 22 or 2.5% are overcrowded.

The overcrowded houses were occupied as follows:—

3 persons	...	1
$3\frac{1}{2}$ —5 persons	...	24
$5\frac{1}{2}$ —7 persons	...	38
$7\frac{1}{2}$ —9 persons	...	14
$9\frac{1}{2}$ —11 persons	...	6
$11\frac{1}{2}$ persons	...	1
Total	...	84

Besides these 84 overcrowded houses there were also 145 houses which were filled to capacity, and in a number of these some of the inmates, who were then under 10 years of age, and so counted as half a person, will shortly reach that age, and make the houses overcrowded.

17 houses were also unfit for habitation in addition to being overcrowded, and will be dealt with under the provisions of the 1930 Act.

In addition to the 25 houses now in course of erection, included in Scheme 15 for the purpose of relieving overcrowding, the Council submitted a proposal to erect a further 40 houses but the Minister requested the consideration of the possibility of reducing this number by making better use of some of the existing houses, which were under-occupied.

The Property Committee reconsidered the matter, and decided to submit an amended proposal to provide 24 houses instead of the 40 originally proposed.

The Minister fixed January 1st, 1937, as the "appointed day" under Sections 3, 4, 8, and 68 of the Housing Act, 1935, and July 1st, 1936, as the appointed day under Section 6 of the Act.

Consequent upon this it is incumbent upon landlords, after January 1st, 1937, to cause a summary of certain sections of the Act, and a statement showing the "permitted number" of occupants to be inserted in every rent book.

Applications for information as to the "permitted number" began to come in during December, and by the end of the year the necessary information had been given for 1,214 houses. Some of the information was available from records in existence, but it has entailed a large amount of extra work for the staff of the Health Department. In spite of advertisement by means of posters and the press, many landlords have not yet realised their responsibilities under the Act, and there remains a large number of houses to be dealt with during 1937.

Clearance Orders with regard to certain houses belonging to the Corporation and excluded from Highgate No. 1 and Chapel Lane No. 1 Clearance Areas were confirmed by the Minister during the year,

Area.			No. of Houses.	
Highgate No. 3	...	...	...	3
Chapel Lane No. 2	...	...	...	8
Chapel Lane No. 3	...	...	...	3
Chapel Lane No. 4	...	...	...	2

In October an Area consisting of 10 houses belonging to the Corporation and situated at Kirkland and Peppercorn Lane was declared to be a Clearance Area, to be known as Kirkland No. 2 Area, and was forwarded to the Minister for his approval.

Demolition in the Highgate No. 1 Area continued during the year and with the exception of 5 houses in Yard 175, and other minor exceptions the site was cleared of buildings. No owner having submitted a scheme for re-development within the 18 months allowed by the Housing Act, 1930, the Council decided to make a Compulsory Order for certain lands in the Area, which they had not acquired by agreement, for the purpose of erecting cottages for aged people. The Order was made, and a Public Enquiry held, but the Order was not confirmed in its entirety, owing to certain walls having been left standing: this concession to allow owners to leave some external walls standing to a height of five feet to form a boundary wall meant that the site was not "cleared of buildings" and therefore a Compulsory Purchase Order could not be confirmed for that portion of the area. Negotiations were entered into, with the various owners affected, and were proceeding at the end of the year.

Demolition was commenced in the Chapel Lane Areas, but had to be suspended because sufficient new houses were not available for all the tenants in the Area.

Demolition was commenced in the Kirkland No. 1 Area, and was in progress at the end of the year.

Demolition was completed in the Stricklandgate No. 1, Highgate Nos. 2 and 3, and Sepulchre Lane Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Clearance Areas.

No attempt has been made to demolish the Stricklandgate No. 2 Area, and there is one house in the Area still occupied.

The total number of houses demolished in Clearance Areas to date is 100, and the number of persons rehoused therefrom is 420.

Demolition Orders were made with respect to 51 houses, Closing Orders with respect to parts of 3 houses, and 44 Undertakings that houses would not be used again as dwellings were accepted.



41 houses against which individual Demolition Orders were in force were demolished.

The second 50 houses in Scheme No. 14 at Glebe Fields were completed early in the year, and 50 families from Clearance Areas or other unfit houses were re-housed as under:—

From Clearance Areas	...	...	...	36
From houses where Demolition Orders were in force				4
From houses where Closing Orders were in force	...			1
From houses where Undertakings were in force	...			9
				<hr/>
		Total	...	50
				<hr/>

The practice of disinfesting furniture by means of Hydrocyanic acid gas was continued in every case before re-housing.

Scheme No. 15 consisting of 114 houses at Glebe Fields (89 for the purpose of the 1930 Act, and 25 for the purposes of the 1935 Act) was commenced in July, but at the end of the year only 6 houses were completed, and no re-housing was able to be done.

One of the great difficulties met with by the Committee when re-housing persons from unfit houses is to find accommodation for aged couples, or single persons. It is very gratifying to note that in December plans were submitted by a private individual for the erection of 8 houses for aged persons. As it is obviously impossible to erect such houses to let at an economic rent, this is a very public spirited gesture, which one hopes may be copied by others who wish to do something for the welfare of the aged.

The plans of the Housing Committee to erect houses of this type have been held up by difficulties in obtaining sites in suitable positions. As mentioned earlier it is proposed to erect 10 or 12 houses on the site of the Highgate Clearance Area, with access from Abbot Hall grounds, and land has also been purchased adjoining the Chapel Lane Area for a similar purpose.

By an oversight credit was not given in the last Annual Report to the Kendal and District Housing Society for erecting 132 working-class houses at Sandylands. These houses were completed and occupied about the end of 1935.

The Housing Committee having used all the land available for building at Glebe Fields, have made a Compulsory Purchase Order for certain land near Sawmill Lane, at the north-east end of the Borough, to be used for the purpose of the erection of more working-class houses. This site adjoins the Sandylands estate of the Kendal and District Housing Society.

With regard to the five year plan under the Slum Clearance campaign, the position at the end of the year was that 281 of the 380 houses scheduled in the plan had been dealt with, and when Scheme 15 is completed a further 89 will be demolished or go out of use, thus leaving only 10 more houses to be provided to complete the plan. Matters are thus well ahead of the programme which was timed to be completed by September, 1938. Meanwhile, as other houses have deteriorated and owners are not willing to spend considerable sums upon re-conditioning, it would be advisable to submit a supplementary scheme consisting of at least 100 houses, so that the benefit of the subsidy under the 1930 Act may be secured.

In one case where an undertaking had been given that a house would not be used again for habitation, the lessee let the house for that purpose, in contravention of the undertaking; and he was summoned and fined £12 10s. 0d.

In two cases where undertakings were contravened Demolition Orders were made, and the houses will be demolished.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### Milk.

There are upon the Register:—

Cowkeepers within the Borough	..	21
Retailers who are also producers	...	30
Retailers who purchase milk	...	50
Wholesalers	...	27

Legislation regarding grading of milks has been considerably altered. As from June 1st, 1936, the Milk (Special Designations) Orders of 1923 and 1934 were repealed and substituted by the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936. The grades "Certified," "Grade A" (T.T.), and "Grade A" are now abolished, and replaced by the following:—



(1) "Tuberculin Tested" milk—Milk from cows which have passed a veterinary examination and a tuberculin test. The milk may be bottled on the farm, or elsewhere. If raw, the milk must, until the 31st of December, 1936, be so produced that a sample taken at any time before delivery to the consumer shall not contain more than 200,000 bacteria per c.c.; after that date it must satisfy a prescribed methylene blue reduction test for cleanliness. At all times it must be free from Coliform Bacilli in 1/100th of a c.c. If pasteurised it must be described as "Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)," and must not contain more than 30,000 bacteria per c.c.

If it is bottled on the farm the word " (Certified) " may be added to the description.

(2) "Accredited." The conditions of this grade are similar to those prescribed for "Grade A" in the Order of 1923. It is raw milk from cows which have passed a veterinary examination; it may be bottled on the farm or elsewhere. The bacteriological standards are the same as for raw Tuberculin Tested milk.

(3) "Pasteurised." This designation is applicable both where "Accredited" milk and where ungraded milk is pasteurised in accordance with the requirements of the Order.

The Health Committee (in conjunction with the Public Health Committee of the Westmorland County Council) has again continued the taking of samples of milk. These samples are taken systematically at frequent intervals and are all examined for (a) cleanliness—bacterial count and (b) biological examination for the presence of tubercle bacillus. All the samples are examined at the Pathological Laboratory of the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle.

120 samples were taken from dealers who deliver milk in Kendal, and in two cases tubercle infected milk was discovered. In each case the cows at the respective farms were examined by the County Veterinary Officer and the offending cow was removed from each herd and destroyed.

The Milk Marketing Board has again continued the scheme whereby a producer of milk gains an extra penny per gallon for producing milk of a required standard. Only one producer in the Borough is on the Board's list.

The standard is as follows:—Not more than 200,000 bacteria per c.c. and *Bacillus Coli* absent in 1/100th c.c. From tables below it will seem that of the 120 samples, 66 would qualify for this extra payment.

Equal to Tuberculin Tested Standard	...	66 or 55%
Below Tuberculin Tested Standard	...	34 or 28.3%
Definitely bad samples	...	20 or 16.66%
		<hr/> 120 <hr/>

*Bacillus Coli* contents as under:—

Present in 3 tubes (1/10th, 1/100th, 1/1000th)	...	29 or 24.16%
Present in 2 tubes (1/10th and 1/100th)	...	25 or 20.83%
Present in 1 tube (1/10th)	... ..	23 or 19.16%
Absent in 1 c.c.	... ..	43 or 35.83%
		<hr/> 120 <hr/>

Bacterial counts came within the following groups:—

Under 30,000	... ..	38 or 31.66%
30,000—200,000	... ..	48 or 40.0%
200,000—500,000	... ..	14 or 11.66%
500,000—1,000,000	... ..	10 or 8.33%
Over 1,000,000	... ..	10 or 8.33%
		<hr/> 120 <hr/>

The smallest bacterial count recorded was 2,566 bacteria per c.c. and the largest 6,100,000.

Of the 120 samples, 46 were taken from Kendal producers, and whilst recording that 26 of the samples were up to standard, 8 moderate, and 12 bad, and is an improvement on last year's record it leaves plenty of scope for improvement. Visits were paid to farms to try to help the producers to obtain better results.

Three notices have been served referring to general cleanliness of cattle and premises, and one to provide proper paving of floors, channels and yards, additional light and ventilation.

The unfortunate part of the Milk and Dairies Order is that it requires the cowkeeper to do all repairs as regards paving, etc., and not the owner of the farm,

It has been found that although it is to the cowkeeper's advantage to do these improvements he will not willingly do so because he feels that the owner of the farm should improve his own property.

However, one owner has agreed to do certain works for one cowkeeper, and another carried out certain alterations at another farm.

The idea that modern buildings alone produce clean milk should be dispelled because unless scrupulous cleanliness is observed good results will be few.

During the year complaints were received that purveyors of milk had been seen to bottle milk in the streets. This is definitely a breach of the Milk and Dairies Order. Bottles must only be filled and closed on registered premises. One offender was detected and a severe admonition given, and every milk vendor has been circularised stating the bottling of milk in the street is a punishable offence, and that prosecution will follow in the future.

Bottled milk is a good thing, but it must be clean milk in clean sterilized bottles, otherwise the whole object is nullified.

It was also necessary to take proceedings against five milk vendors for failing to have their names and addresses on their vehicles. It has become the practice in recent years to use motor vehicles and bicycles, and although warning letters and verbal warnings have been given these were ignored. The Bench found each case proved and imposed a fine of 5s. on each defendant.

No designated milks are produced within the Borough, but "Certified" and "Grade A" are retailed.

12 samples of "Certified" milk were examined during the year and 2 samples did not comply with the prescribed conditions as they contained B. Coli in each of 3 tubes.

The highest bacterial count was 11,060 and the lowest was 620

### **Meat.**

The plan and estimate for alterations and extensions to the Slaughter House to relieve the existing congestion on certain days was considered by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health.

The Minister approved the plans for the erection of the caretaker's cottage and the construction of an improved roadway to the Slaughter House, and these have been completed during the year.

With regard to alterations and extensions for Slaughtering purposes, the Minister of Health was of opinion that the existing ac-



commodation was adequate for the population of the town, and for the number of animals killed.

Certain alterations to the lairage for beasts and sheep were carried out and were paid for out of revenue.

An attempt to remedy the congestion which occurs on Monday each week was made by extending the hours of slaughtering until 8 p.m., but no butcher took advantage of this extended facility.

During the year electrical stunning apparatus for sheep was installed, and has been working quite successfully.

It is very gratifying and a pleasing duty to acknowledge the services of the R.S.P.C.A. for so kindly sending their experts to demonstrate the use of the electrical stunning.

There are no private slaughter houses within the Borough.

The following is a return of the number of animals slaughtered at the Public Slaughter House during the past three years:—

Year.		Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.	Total.
1934	...	1,141	9,446	1,874	99	12,560
1935	...	1,258	9,211	2,034	87	12,590
1936	...	1,258	9,314	2,461	76	13,109

620 cases of Tuberculosis were found (116 bovines and 504 pigs), Of the bovines affected, 56 were cows, 55 heifers, and five bullocks.

The percentage of animals affected was as follows:—Pigs, 504 out of 2,461, i.e. 20.47%. It should be pointed out that out of the 504 carcasses, the intestines alone in 219 cases were involved. This seems to indicate some connection with methods of feeding, as it is worthy of mention that for the past three Christmases a certain farm (viz. a Certified Milk Farm) has supplied no less than 80 pigs to a butcher in the Borough, without one single case of Tuberculosis being found. It is possible for pigs to be fed on milk which may be tuberculous and thus by ingestion and digestion the heads and intestines are attacked by the disease.

As regards cattle the percentages were:—

Out of 474 cows there were 56 cases or 11.81%

Out of 617 heifers there were 55 cases or 8.91%

Out of 153 bullocks there were 5 cases or 3.02%

Out of 14 bulls there were 0 cases or 0.00%

Out of 1258 animals in all there were 116 cases or 9.22%



## TUBERCULOSIS.

Portion Destroyed.	Bulls	Cows	Heifers	Bullocks	Pigs	TOTAL
Total carcase and viscera ....	—	12	11	—	16	39
Complete viscera ....	—	5	8	2	—	15
Forequarters, diaphragm and lungs ....	—	1	—	—	—	1
Forequarters, diaphragm, lungs, intestines and stomach ....	—	—	1	—	—	1
Forequarters and offal ....	—	—	1	—	—	1
Head only ....	—	16	13	1	68	98
Head and lungs ....	—	9	6	—	—	15
Head, lungs and intestines ....	—	2	3	—	—	5
Head and kidney ....	—	1	—	—	—	1
Head and intestines ....	—	3	3	1	139	146
Head, lungs, diaphragm & intestines ....	—	—	—	1	—	1
Head, liver and intestines ....	—	1	—	—	—	1
Lungs and liver ....	—	3	—	—	3	6
Liver and intestines ....	—	2	3	—	—	5
Lungs, heart, diaphragm, intestines, and stomach ....	—	1	—	—	—	1
Lungs, diaphragm and intestines ....	—	—	1	—	—	1
Lungs and diaphragm ....	—	—	1	—	—	1
Intestines ....	—	—	1	—	219	220
Lungs, diaphragm and liver ....	—	—	1	—	—	1
Head, heart and lungs ....	—	—	1	—	—	1
Liver ....	—	—	1	—	—	1
Head, lungs, and liver ....	—	—	—	—	14	14
Head, lungs, liver and intestines ....	—	—	—	—	27	27
Head and viscera ....	—	—	—	—	1	1
Lungs, liver and intestines ....	—	—	—	—	17	17
	—	56	55	5	504	620
Total number of cattle and pigs killed ....	14	474	617	153	2461	3719

The following Meat was also condemned at the Public Slaughter House:—

Carcase of sheep (injury) ...	...	...	1
Carcases of sheep (abscesses) ...	...	...	2
Carcase of sheep (tenuicollis cysts) ...	...	...	1
Carcase of sheep (decomposition) ...	...	...	1
Carcase of sheep (enteritis) ...	...	...	1
Carcases of sheep (emaciation) ...	...	...	3

Carcase of sheep (suffocation)	...	...	1
Mutton (Abscesses)	...	...	7 lbs.
Sheep's head and pluck (inflammation)	...	...	1
Sheep's head and pluck (coenurus cerebrialis)	...	...	1
Sheeps' livers (distomatosis)	...	...	25
Sheep's liver (parasites)	...	...	1
Sheep's liver (tenuicollis cysts)	...	...	1
Sheep's liver (fatty infiltration)	...	...	1
Carcases of calves (immaturity)	...	...	3
Beasts' livers (distomatosis)	...	...	132
Beast's liver (cysts)	...	...	1
Beasts' livers (abscesses)	...	...	6
Beasts' livers (fatty infiltration)	...	...	3
Beast's liver (cavernous angioma)	...	...	1
Beast's liver (fatty degeneration)	...	...	1
Beasts' kidneys (cysts)	...	...	2
Beast's stomach (inflammation)	...	...	1
Heads and tongues of heifers (actinomycosis)	...	...	3
Carcase of bullock (injuries)	...	...	1
Bullock's diaphragm (inflammation)	...	...	1
Bullock's liver (abscesses)	...	...	1
Hindquarters of cow (injuries)	...	...	4
Hind and forequarters of cow (injuries)	...	...	1
Cow's udder (mastitis)	...	...	9
Viscera and 26 lbs. of beef (abscesses)	...	...	1
Cow's liver (abscesses)	...	...	1
Cow's diaphragm (abscesses)	...	...	1
Cows' heads and tongues (Actinomycosis)	...	...	2
Pigs' legs (fractures)	...	...	2
Pig's pluck (tenuicollis cysts)	...	...	1
Pig's pluck and stomach (inflammation)	...	...	1
Pig's pluck and intestines (inflammation)	...	...	1
Pig's hindquarters (arthritis)	...	...	1
Pigs' hindquarters (injuries)	...	...	3
Carcases of pigs (injuries)	...	...	2
Pig's pluck (inflammation)	...	...	1
Pigs' plucks (cirrhosis)	...	...	2

Pigs' plucks (parasites)	...	...	...	17
Pig's head (injury)	...	...	...	1
Pigs' heads (abscesses)	...	...	...	5
Pigs' plucks (fatty infiltration)	...	...	...	3

Food condemned in shops or other premises:—

- 10 boxes of kippers (decomposition).
- Carcase of pig (injury).
- 60 lbs. mixed beef, pork and lamb (decomposition).
- 12 lbs. pork (decomposition).
- 66 lbs. beef (decomposition).
- 20 lbs. lamb (decomposition).
- 11 lbs. mutton (decomposition).
- 6 lbs. corned beef (decomposition).
- Beast's liver (fatty degeneration).

Premises where food and meat products are prepared have been inspected and generally found to be in a satisfactory condition.

## **ADULTERATION, Etc., AND CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.**

This work is carried out by Mr. W. H. Roberts, M.Sc., F.I.C., of Liverpool.

91 samples of food were taken for analysis as detailed below (67 formal and 24 informal).

Article.	No. of samples	Result.	Remarks.
Milk ....	60	Genuine.	
Milk ....	1	2.50% Milk Fat 8.80% Non-Fatty Solids	Deprived of 16% of its milk fat. Case dismissed by Magistrates.
Milk ....	1	2.75% Milk Fat 8.45% Non-Fatty Solids	Analyst reported "In my opinion the milk is of abnormal composition, and must therefore be certified as genuine."
Milk ....	1	2.73% Milk Fat 9.23% Non-Fatty Solids	Deprived of 9% of its milk fat. See following two samples.
Milk ....	1	2.80% Milk Fat 9.15% Non-Fatty Solids	Both samples taken at place of delivery. Each deprived of 6% of its milk fat. Producer warned by letter.
Milk ....	1	2.80% Milk Fat 9.20% Non-Fatty Solids	
Milk ....	1	2.80% Milk Fat 9.40% Non-Fatty Solids	Deprived of 6% of its milk fat. Further samples satisfactory.
Milk ....	1	3.55% Milk Fat 7.84% Non-Fatty Solids	7% of Added Water. Fined £3.
Tinned Cream	1	Genuine	Free from preservative
Cream ....	5	"	"
Margarine	1	"	
Butter ....	7	"	
Sausages	7	"	Free from preservative
Sausages	2	"	Contained preservative in accordance with the regulations as regards preservatives.
Sausages	1	44% Meat	Deficient in meat to the extent of 12%. Informal sample. Vendor warned.
	91		



In the milks the highest fat content was 6.05% and the highest non-fatty content 9.50%

The average percentage of milk fat and non-fatty solids in all milks (genuine and non-genuine) was 3.56% and 8.91% respectively.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912.**

		No. of samples examined for presence of preservatives.		No. of samples which contained preservatives.	
Milk	...	...	67	...	Nil.
Cream	...	...	6	...	Nil.

### **Health Education.**

There is a considerable amount of dissemination of knowledge relating to health and disease, through the Women's Institutes and through health talks at the schools by the School Medical Officers.

## **PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

The incidence of Infectious Disease has risen during the year but is due to a small epidemic of Scarlet Fever which threatened towards the end of the previous year and cropped up during the first four months in a series of small outbreaks.

Whilst this epidemic was occurring within the Borough there was a similar outbreak happening in the neighbouring Rural Authority's Area and the onus of providing Hospital accommodation for each and all devolved upon Kendal. The ordinary accommodation was quite inadequate, so use was made of the premises of the Joint Smallpox Hospital and through the courtesy of the Windermere Urban Author-

ity four beds were made available in their Hospital. Thus all necessary accommodation was provided. It was a practical experience in the adaptation of existing facilities to meet abnormal circumstances and the Matron and her Staff are to be congratulated on the manner in which they rose to the occasion and met each difficulty as it occurred.

Four girls who were going in for their Higher School Certificate were admitted to the Sanatorium suffering from Scarlet Fever; application was made to the Examining Board for them to have their examination in the Hospital, the papers being disinfected with formalin prior to being sent off; this the Board consented to and these four girls were all successful in passing their examination; an example of how such possible hardships may be met without any danger to the community.

In all the other infectious diseases there was either equality or diminution in numbers compared with the previous year; diphtheria numbered 14 as against 16 and 3 of these occurred in one house.

Of Puerperal cases there were 2 of Fever and 5 of Pyrexia, whilst 2 infants developed Ophthalmia and were treated at home with no impairment of vision ensuing. One mild case of Poliomyelitis occurred and was transferred to the Ethel Hedley Hospital for treatment which was quite successful.

A visitor to the town who was ill on arrival was found to be suffering from a mild attack of Paratyphoid Fever; she was admitted to hospital in a curious dazed condition which became more pronounced and proved to be Encephalitis Lethargica; the diagnosis of Paratyphoid was confirmed bacteriologically and would not have been diagnosed as such except for this, but it would appear that she was suffering from both diseases and from the latter of these she died. There was no other fatal case in the hospital during the year, though one case of Diphtheria succumbed to post-diphtheritic paralysis at patient's own home.

Diphtheria antitoxin has been promptly utilised, and this is issued free for the treatment of all necessitous cases, excepting patients under the National Health Insurance Act: also for both necessitous and insured persons for prophylactic purposes. The use

of this serum in all suspicious cases, without waiting for a bacteriological result, is an increasing practice and one that is very welcome as early administration is the secret of good results.

No application has been made for artificial immunization against Diphtheria.

The notification of Pneumonia under the Regulations of 19th of October, 1927, has not been of any service; of the 3 cases notified, all recovered, whilst there were 6 deaths which were registered as arising from this cause, none of which had been notified; the general medical opinion seems to be that from a Public Health point of view there does not appear to be any advantage to be gained from notification. There seems to be scope here for effective economy with no detriment to Public Health.

In spite of the extra demand made upon the Hospital for isolation, it was not found necessary to shorten the period of detention in any case admitted and there were no return cases.

Very slowly does the scheme for the provision of new isolation accommodation emerge and the Kendal Hospital continues to be responsible for the admission and nursing of infectious cases from the whole County except for Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria in the North and Scarlet Fever in Windermere. Puerperal cases have hitherto been admitted into the Westmorland County Hospital but this is not a good practice and should cease as soon as proper provision is made in a suitable locality.

No use has been made of Schick or Dick tests nor of artificial immunization.

No primary vaccinations or re-vaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health.

There was no serious epidemic of Influenza during the year, though towards the end of the year there were indications of an approaching visitation.

A close liaison exists with the School Medical Officer, and thus school notifications are always available and utilised where necessary.

Premises and articles exposed to infections are disinfected by formaldehyde free of charge, 125 rooms in 75 houses have been dealt with during the year; disinfectants are also distributed free to houses in which a tuberculous patient resides.

The Public Assistance Committee's Institution provides facilities for disinfestation. One family suffering from Scabies was treated at home.

Arrangements have been made between the Westmorland County Hospital and the Manchester Radium Institute for the treatment of cases of malignant disease by radium when so required.

No action has been necessary under Section 66 of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1925, with regard to the prevention and treatment of blindness.



### LABORATORY REPORT.

The following Laboratory Examinations were done at the Combined Sanitary Districts Laboratory at Kendal:—

203	Diphtheria	
10	Typhoid & Paratyphoid	
8	Tubercle (Sputum)	
6	Gonococcus	
10	Organisms	
3	Bacilluria.	Urine
3	Glycosuria	
2	Analysis	Water
25	B. Coli.	
30	Count.	Milk
30	B. Coli.	
330	TOTAL.	

# INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1936.

DISEASE.	Total.	Ages.										Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
		-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-
Scarlet Fever ..	38	—	2	—	—	6	16	6	2	5	1	—	—
Diphtheria ..	14	—	—	—	1	1	6	3	—	2	1	—	—
Paratyphoid ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—
Pneumonia ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	70	2	2	—	2	7	23	9	3	16	5	1	—

## INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE BY WARDS.

DISEASE.	Castle.	Far Cross Bank.	Fell.	Highgate.	Nether.	Strickland.	TOTAL.
Scarlet Fever ....	15	3	3	10	3	4	38
Diphtheria ....	3	1	1	7	—	2	14
Paratyphoid ....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Fever ....	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ....	—	1	—	1	2	1	5
Pneumonia ....	1	—	2	—	—	—	3
Erysipelas ....	2	—	1	1	—	—	4
Acute Poliomyelitis ....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
TOTAL ....	24	6	7	20	6	7	70

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
15	2	2	—	—	3	1	—	—
25	2	—	—	—	3	2	—	—
35	2	3	—	1	—	2	1	1
45	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	1
65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	7	8	—	3	7	7	2	3

**Tuberculosis.**

There was again another decrease in pulmonary tuberculosis, 15 cases being notified as against 23 in the previous year, but there was an increase of 1 in non-pulmonary cases, these numbering 3.

Of the pulmonary cases 1 had contracted the disease before coming into this Area, and during the year 3 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary died.

No cases occurred in persons who were unemployed and 2 of the non-pulmonary cases were not notified during life.

No action has been necessary under Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 62, Public Health Act, 1925.

The administration of Tuberculosis and Venereal Disease is under the County Council.



**FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.**

			Inspections.		Notices.
Factories	...	...	67	...	5
Workshops	...	...	184	...	8
Workplaces	...	...	32	...	1
			<hr/>		<hr/>
			283		14
			<hr/>		<hr/>

			Defects Found.		Remedied.
Want of cleanliness	...	...	3	...	3
Sanitary accommodation defective			3	...	3
Other nuisances	...	...	8	...	8
			<hr/>		<hr/>
			14		14
			<hr/>		<hr/>





